

Applic. No.: 10/653,794

Amdt. Dated September 27, 2005

Reply to Office action of June 30, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1.

This sheet, which includes Fig. 1, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1. In Fig. 1, a legend --Prior Art-- has been added.

Attachments: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-7 and 9-50 are now in the application. Claims 1, 13-14, and 16 have been amended. Claim 8 has been cancelled. Claims 21-50 have been added.

In deference to the Examiner's requirement in the section entitled "Drawings" on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, a legend -Prior Art-has been added to Fig. 1.

In the section entitled "Claim Objections" on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, claim 14 has been objected to because of informalities. Appropriate correction has been made.

In the section entitled "Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102" on pages 2-4 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 1-4, 7, 9-12, and 16-19 have been rejected as being anticipated by Yokouchi et al. (US 2002/0101899 A1) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

In the section entitled "Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103" on pages 4-5 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 5 and 20 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Yokouchi et al. in view of Jewell (US 5,881,085) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a);

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and claim 6 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Yokouchi et al. in view of Jewell (US 6,014,395) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejections have been noted and claims 1 and 16 have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application.

More specifically, the feature of claim 8 has been added to claims 1 and 16, respectively. Since claim 8 contains allowable subject matter as indicated in the section entitled "Allowable Subject Matter" on page 5 of the Office action, claims 1 and 16 are now believed to be allowable. Since claims 2-7, 9-12, and 17-20 are ultimately dependent on claims 1 or 16, they are believed to be allowable as well.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's statement in the section entitled "Allowable Subject Matter" on page 5 of the above-mentioned Office action that claims 8 and 13-15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The feature of claim 8 has been added to claims 1 and 16, respectively. Claims 13-14 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Since claim 15 is dependent on

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allowable claim 14, it is believed to be allowable in dependent form.

Claims 21-50 have been added. Since independent claims 21-22 are method claims corresponding to allowable independent product claims 13-14, respectively, they are believed to be allowable as well. Since dependent claims 23-50 are dependent on allowable claims 13, 14, 21, or 22, they are believed to be allowable as well.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-7 and 9-50 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

The fee in the amount of \$2050.00 for three independent claims in excess of three and twenty-nine claims in excess of twenty is enclosed herewith.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to 37 CFR Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to

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the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-
1099.

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Respectfully submitted,


For Applicants

YC

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